of four Southern States was held recently at Madras;

(b) whether the top officials of the Central Electricity Authority, Neyveli Lignite Corporation, National Thermal Power Corporation, Nuclear Power Corporation and Powergrid Corporation also attended the meeting;

(c) if so, the details of the deliberations of the meeting; and

(d) the details of the follow up steps proposed to be taken to ensure maximum power generation in the coming months in order to tide over the current power crunch faced by the four Southern States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir. A special meeting of the SREB was held on 20.1.1996 to discuss the low frequency operation of the Southern Region grid.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) All members of SREB discussed and agreed on the four points as under:

1. The regional grid shall be operated at a frequency not less than 48.2 Hz at all times.

2. SRLDC shall work out the hourly demand of each constituent system corresponding to 48.2 Hz and effectively monitor the hourly demands of the systems. All constitutent States shall take corrective action as per the advice of SRLDC.

3. Constituent States shall limit their drawals from central generating stations to their entitled shares.

4. For maintaining maximum coal supply to Ramagundam STPS any extra cost asked for by Singaroni Collieries, over and above the linkage agreed to shall be borne by the constituent State Eelectricity Boards and the Government of Pondicherry.

(d) Steps have been taken to maximise the generation at central sector stations viz. Ramagundam STPS and Neyveli Linite Corporation which are now generating more than their target. Consequently the generation at Ramagundam STPS, Neyveli Lignite Coporation and Madras (Kalpakkam) Atomic Power Station improved during February, 1996 compared to the preceding month as indicated below:—

	Feb. '1996 MU/day	Jan. '1996 MU/day
Remangundam STPS	48.01	47.85
Nayveli TPS II	28.87	25.08
Madras APS	7.87	1.63
TOTAL	84.75	74.56

कपास के मूल्यों में गिरावट

1269. **श्री रामजी लाल:** क्या वस्त्र मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) कपास के मूल्यों में अकस्मात तीव्र गिरावट के क्या कारण हैं;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि हमारे देश में कपास के मूल्य अन्य देशों की तुलना में कम हैं; और

(ग) क्या सरकार देश में किसानों की मदद करने/क्षतिपूर्ति करने को ध्यान में रखते हुए कपास का निर्यात करने का विचार रखती है?

श्रम मंत्री और वस्त्र मंत्री (श्री जी॰ वेंकट स्वामी): (क) वर्ष 1994-95 की तुलना में इस वर्ष कपास की कीमतें कम बनी रहीं। कीमतें, बाजार मांग एवं आपूर्ति सहित अनेक कारकों पर निर्भर करती हैं।

(ख) जी हां, इस समय।

(ग) सरकार ने कपास वर्ष 1995-96 में निर्यात के लिए आज तक 9.15 लाख गांठें रिलीज की हैं। निर्यात कोटे कपास उपजकर्ताओं तथा उपभोक्ताओं के हितों सहित सभी संगत घटकों को ध्यान में रखने के पश्चात रिलीज किए जाते हैं।